

DEATH'S SUMMONS

Comes to Many Persons Who Were Well Known

THROUGHOUT THE COUNTY

Abraham Whetstone, Daniel Walter, William Dunlap, Mrs. Michael Ernest, Peter A. Koontz, William F. Smith.

Abraham Whetstone, the widely known merchant of Oysterburg, died suddenly at his home Thursday night of last week, of heart failure. He had experienced some trouble with his heart for several weeks but continued in his usual duties. On the night of his death before retiring he complained of pain in his side. The local physician, Dr. Hill, was hastily summoned and on arriving discovered that the vital sparks had just fled and all the restoratives resorted to were without avail. Mr. Whetstone was aged 56 years and 24 days. He was the son of John and Catherine Whetstone, of Naylor township. In 1875 he married Sarah Barley, of Morrisson's Cove, and for a time resided on the Whetstone farm in East St. Clair township. Afterward for a period of 10 years he lived on the John B. Miller farm in West St. Clair township. About two years ago, deeming it to the best interest of his health to retire from farming, he moved to Oysterburg, where he succeeded Thomas Stiff, in the mercantile business, in which he met with encouraging success. He was a man of modest, unassuming disposition, honorable and straightforward in his dealings, and his integrity was beyond question. The high esteem in which he was held attests the fact that he lived a noble useful life. Like his parents before him, he was a devoted, active member of the Reformed church. He taught a class in Sunday school up to the day of his death. At different times he held the office of deacon, elder and Sunday school superintendent and was a member of the Independent Order of Old Fellows of St. Clairville. For a number of years he held the office of township auditor. He is survived by his widow and three sons, namely, Edgar, of Baltimore; Albert, of South Fork, and Barley, at home. Two brothers and two sisters also mourn his death: Albert R., of Everett; John, of Iowa City, Ia.; Mrs. Mary Williams, of Cumberland, and Mrs. Anna Miller, of Johnstown. The funeral was held at St. Luke's Reformed church, Oysterburg, Sunday afternoon and was one of the largest ever held in that community. Rev. R. F. Bauman, his pastor, conducted the services, assisted by Rev. A. F. Nace, of St. Clairsville. His body was laid to rest in the adjoining cemetery to await the morning of the resurrection.

Daniel Walter.

Monday afternoon Daniel Walter, one of the oldest and best known citizens of Bedford township, was suddenly called out of this life. He had been enjoying his usual health, excepting some indisposition on Monday, which caused him to keep his bed that day. His family heard him singing during the afternoon and they were greatly shocked to find him dead on going to his room. Mr. Walter was his 31st year and always lived in Bedford township. He was held in the highest esteem by all who knew him for his integrity of character. He was a devoted member of the Reformed church, in the welfare of which he took an active interest while he permitted. In politics he was a Democrat. For a number of years he held the office of school director. About 25 years ago when the P. R. R. extended its line to Oysterburg and Opperheim to tap the rich iron ore deposits of that region Mr. Walter engaged extensively in the mining industry, which he found most profitable. He ended his days on his farm, where he had built a beautiful mansion with many modern improvements and where his son Frank carries forward the work which he had so well established. The reaper, Death, has been claiming many for his own from the community in which Mr. Walter lived. Four were thus summoned from the immediate vicinity within six weeks to their eternal reward, namely, his brother Jacob, whose funeral was held on January 4, Joseph Whetstone, Mary Miller and now the subject of this sketch. It should remind us that we are all journeying to that country from which no traveler returns. Mr. Walter's widow, who was a Miss Sill, survives him. One son and two sisters also mourn his departure: Frank, on the homestead farm; Fred Zimmer and Mrs. William Phillips, all of Bedford township. The funeral services were held Wednesday morning at Messiah Lutheran church, conducted by his pastor, Rev. B. F. Bauman, who was assisted by Rev. J. B. Diehl, of the Lutheran church. Interment was made in Messiah cemetery.

William Dunlap.

William Dunlap, one of the most familiar figures and popular citizens of Bedford, died on Monday. Mr. Dunlap was a son of Mr. and Mrs. David Dunlap and was born in Snake Spring township on April 25, 1823. About 57 years ago he married Miss Margaret Franks, of Friends Cove. Six children were born to them, four of whom are still living—Shannon, of Jersey Shore; B. F., of Pittsburgh; Mrs. Frank Thompson and Mrs. Anna Diehl, of Bedford. He is also survived by his wife and two brothers—Simon and Jacob of Snake Spring Valley—both of whom are older than the deceased. Mr. Dunlap was a farmer and about 51 years ago bought a farm in Bedford township, upon which he lived for 21 years, when he sold to the county and the farmhouse was erected upon the site. Mr. Dunlap moved to Bedford and built a house on Juliana street, in which he lived until his death. About a year ago the deceased fell and broke his leg and since then it has been very difficult for him to walk, but he was wheeled down town and frequently called on his friends, who were always glad to see him because of his ever-falling joviality and good-fellowship. He was a member of the Reformed church and was held in high esteem by a host of friends. The funeral services were held yesterday afternoon and were

BUSY BAKERSFIELD

The Distributing Point and County Seat of Kern County.

OUR CALIFORNIA LETTER.

An Interesting Description of the Sight Seen by a Wide Awake Bedfordite in the Golden State.

BAKERSFIELD, CAL., January 15.—This town has a population of 8,000. It is the distributing point and county seat of Kern county, which is as large as the state of Massachusetts. It has splendid streets and many miles of beautiful cement sidewalks, a fine water supply, twelve churches, six newspapers, foundries, machine shops, five banking institutions and is the southern gateway to the San Joaquin Valley, which is as large in area as the state of Indiana. Kern county is an oil producing district, shipping now from 25 to 30 thousand barrels per day. Kern county is the entrance to the great central plain of California, the famous San Joaquin Valley. This county has an average of 3,000 acres, from which 100,000 cases of canned asparagus, a tract of 8,000 acres of this country, land and recently been sold to capitalists of Los Angeles, who will devote the tract to asparagus, celery and other choice vegetables. The price of land in this part of the country ranges from \$30 to \$100 per acre. The sugar beet culture is coming to be a very profitable crop in this section, the average returns from this vegetable being \$37 to \$90 per acre. There are abundant opportunities for farmers in Kern county. Good land can be obtained. Nature has provided fertile soil, beautiful climate and stores of water, but the farmer and fruit grower must do the rest. They never pray for rain here, though, no matter how much they need it. They irrigate. It reminds me of the two ways the son of Africa prayed. First, he prayed for a year for the Lord to send him a chicken, but it did not come. Then he prayed for one minute for the Lord to send him a chicken and the pullet was there before him.

The man who failed to make a trip to the top of Mount Everest in southern California misses a grand sight and one which will be a picture before his vision through life. It is a great expanse of land, 3,000 feet in length, to Reno mountain, an ascent of 1,300 feet, from which point the scenery is grand. The next division takes you to Yuba Plains, four miles farther, which is situated among the big pines at the end of the road 5,000 feet above sea level. Here you find yourself above the clouds, with the bright sun shining above you in all his splendor, and in close touch with some of nature's fine productions. We now pass through Kings and Tulare counties without making a stop and anchor in the city of Fresno, which is the county seat of Fresno county. This county being located about the center of San Joaquin Valley, I stopped for two days in order to gather as much information as possible of this wonderful agricultural valley. This county contains about 3,000,000 acres, of which about one-third is tillable soil and well adapted to the raising of all kinds of semi-tropical fruits, as well as being a wonderful wheat producing country. The altitude of Fresno county varies from 250 to 13,000 feet, which presents a great variety of climate and soil. With an average of 275 days of sunshine in a year. The mean temperature is 60 degrees. The average summer temperature is 80 degrees. There are over 500,000 deciduous fruit trees in the county and this number is being added to each year. There are about forty thousand acres of vineyards producing raisins and wine grapes. The annual cost for irrigation in this county is 12½ cents per acre. This is the cheapest irrigation service in the state. Now, as to the values of land in this valley, they vary in the different counties. Therefore I will give prices of this county, it being the center county. There are large areas that can be bought for \$10 per acre. This kind is only fit for grazing purposes and is not provided with water. Land that would raise fair crops in a favorable season sells at \$10 to \$20. Land with a water right sells at \$25 and up. The above prices are for what is termed the best lands of the county. The better lands sell for more money. For alfalfa lands for \$25 to \$30 per acre. First-class land for \$30 to \$40 per acre. Good land for \$40 to \$50 per acre. Much better bearing vineyards have sold during the year past at \$250 to \$300 per acre.

The chief industry of Fresno county is raising grapes. The industry is a source of great profit to the people, while this part of the state is the greatest raisin producing section in the world. The value of raisins produced in San Joaquin Valley reaches about \$3,000,000. The wine grape is as profitable as the raisin grape, as it requires less handling and nets a return of from \$50 to \$100 per acre. All varieties of peaches are grown here with success. Apples are a very profitable crop. Fresno county has some of the largest and finest pear orchards in the world. The fruit shipments from Fresno aggregate over \$1,000,000 annually. Alfalfa is this country seems to be its natural home. The farmers claim they can cut from five to eight tons per acre a year. But they are changing their mode of farming. They have in the past shipped their hay off to Arizona and southern California. Now they are beginning to feed it on the farm and receive their revenues through the channels of the dairy, which is claimed to be one of the most profitable investments that a man can make here, as this country has green pastures the whole year around. The annual acreage of wheat raised in Fresno county is about 100,000 acres. Money is another source of profit to the farmer. Alfalfa hay is very fine, although it is not so good as eastern hay. The price ranges from five to six dollars per ton. Much more information remains, which would be interesting to many readers, but space will not permit at present.

Peter A. Koontz died at his home near Ashmun's Station on January 15. He was aged 63 years, eight months and 23 days. In early life he united with the Reformed church in Everett and was a consistent member of the same for more than 30 years. He is survived by five children, all grown up and residing in the same community; also by one brother, who lives in Ohio; and three sisters—Mrs. Catherine McEldowney, of Salem, O.; Mrs. Catherine Wad, of Chattanooga, Tenn.; and Mrs. Minerva Ritchey, of Ashmun's Station. The funeral services were held in the Baptist church, Everett, on Saturday and were conducted by Rev. J. W. Lingle, pastor of the Friends Cove charge of the Lutheran church. Interment in the Everett cemetery.

William F. Smith, of Hopewell township, was found dead in an outbuilding on his farm Friday morning. He was about 53 years old and is survived by his wife and two sons. Three brothers and a sister also survive him, namely, Hon. John W. Smith, Rufus E. Smith, Esq., of Hopewell; James Smith, of Mt. Dallas, and Mrs. Thomas Kay, of Illinois. Mr. Smith was in excellent health and his untimely death was a great shock to the community in which he lived. He was a man of excellent character and commanded the highest regard of his friends and neighbors.

Mrs. Vitalis Wertz, of Harrison township, died on Wednesday of last week. She was about 50 years of age. Her husband, one sister, Miss Hester Hul, of New Buena Vista, and a brother, Joseph Hul, of Napier township, survive her. She was a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Hul, of Napier township, deceased, and was united in marriage to Vitalis Wertz fourteen years ago. The funeral services were held in the Reformed church at New Buena Vista on Friday. Interment in the cemetery at Schellsburg. Mrs. Wertz was an estimable woman.

Mrs. H. J. Stallings, of Cumberland, died on January 15. The body was brought to Bedford and interred in the cemetery at this place on Monday. The deceased was the widow of the late Benjamin Hackett, the well known engineer in the employ of the P. R. R., and the mother of Benjamin Hackett, Jr., of Bedford. Some time after the death of Mr. Hackett his widow married II. J. Stallings and has since then resided in Cumberland.

Mrs. Mary Jane Blankley died in Snake Valley at the home of her son, B. F. Blankley, on January 15. The deceased was a daughter of Peter Schwartz, late of Monroe town, Pennsylvania, deceased. She is survived by six children—N. W. and U. G. of Everett; C. C. and B. F. of Black Valley; E. H. of Clearville; E. W. of Jeannette, and Mrs. Barbara Wilkinson, of Kearney.

Abraham King, who was a member of the first jury in the county of Fulton county, when the county was constructed out of a portion of Bedford county in 1850, died at his home in Taylor township, Fulton county, on January 8. Mr. King was 87 years old. Only one of the original first jury is still living—Thomas Hessler, of Licking Creek township, Fulton county.

Mrs. John Lash, who lived at the Narrows, died on Tuesday. She was 41 years old and is survived by her husband and eight children. The funeral services were held yesterday afternoon. Interment was made in the Bedford cemetery. A good woman has gone to her reward.

Mrs. Margaret Mook, probably the oldest resident of McConnellburg, died on January 13. She was nearly 88 years old. She is survived by three sons, one of whom, James E. lives in Morrisson's Cove.

Electric Light Company Meets Directors. At the annual meeting of the Bedford Electric Light, Heat and Power company on Tuesday the following directors were elected: Frank Fletcher, Esq., Alvin L. Little, Esq., B. F. Madore, Esq., Hon. J. T. Alsip, Esq., D. Heckerman, Esq., D. D. Doty and J. W. Tate. S. R. Longenecker, Esq., J. C. Riley, Esq., and Harry Gilchrist were appointed auditors.

BORROWED BRIEFS.

Items of Interest Clipped From Our Contemporary.

Mr. M. W. Corie, one of THE BEDFORD GAZETTE'S lightning type allegers, was a pleasant caller at this office Tuesday afternoon. Come again, Mr. Corie, as we are always pleased to meet the craft, especially since we have "stuck 'em and are sticking 'em ourselves"—Hyndman Bulletin.

SAVING AN ENGINEER'S HUNTING. The engineers employed on the Bedford and Hollidaysburg railroad have been making their headquarters at Hotel Shaffer for the past week. They are now at work in the vicinity of Greenfield, establishing the grade. The severe weather of the past few days did not deter the men and they are at work every day. From the way they bustle it looks as if they are under instructions to complete the work at the earliest possible moment.—Oysterburg News.

THE GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS. Governor Pennypacker's inaugural address was as follows: Citizens of Pennsylvania.—The event in which we participate presents some unusual features. This state has a population of 2,831,135, greater than that of England in the time of Elizabeth, twice that of Holland when the leading maritime power of the world and twice that of the United States when Washington became president. Her resources are almost boundless. Her commerce and her industries are valued at \$177,727,822.

The floating indebtedness of about three and a half millions of dollars which existed four years ago has been paid off during the last administration and now is now substantial without debt of any kind. She pays each year for the maintenance of her schools and of charities more than any other state in the union.

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S. W. PENNYPACKER

Became Governor of Pennsylvania on Tuesday.

THE INAUGURAL ADDRESS

Executive Will Count With Politicians—The Kind of Ballot He Favors—Newspapers Under Fire.

Samuel W. Pennypacker took the oath of office as governor of Pennsylvania at Harrisburg on Tuesday. With the inauguration of the governor began the term of office of Lieutenant Governor William M. Brown, of Lawrence county, and Secretary of Internal Affairs Isaac B. Brown, of Erie. The street parade which followed the inaugural ceremonies was the most pretentious in the history of the capital city.

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